

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 111882
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES:CEK:BDF
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (PER SECTO 4098)
NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.
AF:TWSEELYE
PM:LGELB
DOD/ISA:LJANKA (SUBS)
H:DBENNET
S/S- MR. TARNOFF
NSC - MR. QUANDT
S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

-----161941Z 024279 /50

O 161819Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 111882

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EG

SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLY

1. YOU SHOULD SEE SADAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT YOU
CAN GIVE HIM A STATUS REPORT AS TO THE PRESIDENT'S THINKING
ON WHAT NON-LETHAL ITEMS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT HE WOULD
APPROVE FOR SALE TO EGYPT. THE PRESIDENT IS PLANNING,
AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS, TO PROPOSE FOLLOWING
ITEMS FOR SALE: (A) FOURTEEN C-130'S; (B) TWELVE RECONNAIS-
SANCE RPVS; (C) SIX LOROP PODS; (D) HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF
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APPROACHES TO SUEZ CANAL; AND (E) IMET PROGRAM (EST. FY 77
DOLS ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND FY 78 TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND).

2. YOU ARE ALSO AUTHORIZED TO BEGIN EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS
WITH SADAT WHETHER GOE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING EQUIPMENT
IN FIVE ADDITIONAL AREAS WHERE WE HAVE PENDING EXPRESSIONS
OF EGYPTIAN INTEREST, I.E., (A) AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIP-

MENT, (B) SELECTED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT; (C) TARGET DRONES; (D) PASSIVE NIGHT VISION DEVICES; AND (E) UTILITY HELICOPTERS. BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM YOU WILL RECEIVE BACKGROUND INFORMATION FROM OUR FILES ON THESE AREAS OF EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN TALKING WITH SADAT. WHEN DISCUSSING ITEMS IN THESE CATEGORIES, YOU SHOULD ASSURE THAT IT IS UNDERSTOOD NO RPT NO COMMITMENT OF SALE IS INTENDED OR IMPLIED AT THIS TIME. CONCERNING ITEMS ON BOTH LISTS, YOU ARE TO STRESS TO SADAT OUR REQUEST THAT YOUR DISCUSSION BE HELD VERY CLOSELY
WE WILL NOT
BEGIN CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS UNTIL
WE RECEIVE REPORT OF YOUR TALKS WITH SADAT ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. WE CANNOT RPT NOT COMPLY WITH REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT LISTED BY FAHMY TO EQUIP EGYPTIAN AFRICA FORCE. WE ARE REVIEWING THIS REQUEST, WHICH WE ESTIMATE WOULD COST IN TOTAL ABOUT DOLS 1.5 BILLION, WITH VIEW OF DETERMINING WHETHER WE MIGHT CONSIDER THE SALE OF SOME FEW ITEMS OF NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT FROM THIS LIST THAT MIGHT BE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO EGYPT. WE WILL ADVISE BY SEPTTEL WHEN REVIEW COMPLETED.

4. WE BELIEVE OUR BEST APPROACH TO CONVEYING THIS INFORMATION TO SADAT IS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A BROAD REVIEW OF OUR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS AND IN CONTEXT OF TOUR D'HORIZON FOLLOW-UP TO DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON RE AFRICA. THIS WOULD ALLOW YOU TO ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE
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WHILE CONVEYING SOME NEGATIVE RESPONSES.

5. SUGGEST YOU DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SADAT:

-- PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED YOU TO DISCUSS WITH SADAT A QUOTE NON-LETHAL UNQUOTE PACKAGE, INCLUDING FOURTEEN ADDITIONAL C-130 H AIRCRAFT; TWELVE TELEDYNE RYAN MODEL 124R (FIREBEE) RECONNAISSANCE RPV; SIX LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE OBLIQUE PHOTOGRAPHY (LOROP) PODS AND SUPPORTING LABORATORY AND MATERIALS; AND CERTIFICATION OF EGYPT FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM (ESTIMATED FUNDING LEVELS ARE FOR FY 77 ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND FOR FY 78 TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS).

-- IN ADDITION, YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REVIEW WITH SADAT THE CURRENT STATUS OF GOE INTEREST IN A NUMBER OF OTHER ITEMS, SUCH AS AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT,

SELECTED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, TARGET DRONES, PASSIVE NIGHT VISION DEVICES AND UTILITY HELICOPTERS.

-- WE WILL BEGIN CONSULTATIONS NEXT WEEK WITH KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS WILL NOT LIKELY BE COMPLETE, THEREFORE, UNTIL EARLY JUNE. THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH SADAT IN THIS MATTER AND KNOWS SADAT APPRECIATES THE NEED TO AVOID PREMATURE PUBLICITY UNTIL CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ARE COMPLETE.

-- THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN OBTAINING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL EVEN FOR THE NON-LETHAL PACKAGE. NEVERTHELESS, HE WISHES TO ASSURE PRESIDENT SADAT OF HIS DETERMINATION; HE IS ALSO COUNTING ON THE FAVORABLE IMPACT OF SADAT'S VISIT TO BE HELPFUL IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

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-- WE ARE REVIEWING PRESIDENT SADAT'S REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EGYPTIAN MOBILE TASK FORCE TO COPE WITH EMERGENCY SITUATIONS IN AFRICA WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF OUR COMMITMENT TO HOLD DOWN THE WORLDWIDE TRANSFER OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS. TO UNDERTAKE A PROGRAM OF THE MAGNITUDE OUTLINED BY FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR ARMS CONTROL OBJECTIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ELSEWHERE. WE ARE REVIEWING THE LIST TO SEE IF THERE ARE NOT SOME NON-LETHAL ITEMS WE COULD SELL THAT WOULD BE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO EGYPT. WHEN OUR REVIEW IS COMPLETE, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH AGAIN ON THIS MATTER.

-- THE PRESIDENT WISHES TO RECONFIRM TO SADAT HIS INTENTION TO STRENGTHEN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN ALL FIELDS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. IN THIS RESPECT, HE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT REQUESTS TO THE CONGRESS AT THE CURRENT HIGH LEVEL OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, AS REQUESTED BY SADAT DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. (INDEED IT WAS TO PROTECT THIS IMPORTANT BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIP THAT THE PRESIDENT CONCLUDED WE COULD NOT BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN CERTAIN FIELDS OF MILITARY SUPPLY.)

-- YOU MAY INFORM SADAT THAT THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAS AGREED TO THE SSA LEVEL AND SHIFTED IT FROM LESS THAN ONE-THIRD GRANT TO AT LEAST 60 PERCENT GRANT. WHILE THIS IS NOT A FINAL DECISION, IT REFLECTS THE INTEREST OF IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS IN THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY.

-- WE ARE ALSO EXTREMELY CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
REQUESTED HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY AND WE ARE WORKING ACTIVELY
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BEGIN AS SOON AS TECHNICAL DETAILS ARE WORKED OUT.

-- THE MILITARY TRAINING PROPOSED WILL BE ON A GRANT BASIS.
OUR PREVIOUS TRAINING AGREEMENT WAS UNDER FMS SALES.
6. DURING SADAT'S WASHINGTON VISIT, IT WAS AGREED TO
REVIEW PERIODICALLY WITH HIM DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA. YOU
MAY WISH IN THE DISCUSSION PROPOSED ABOVE TO DRAW ON
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APPROVED BY S/S-O:AWOTTO
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P 170058Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 111882

NODIS
FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT STATE 111882 ACTION CAIRO 16 MAY 77 QUOTE

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UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY SUPPLY
TAGS: MASS, EG, US, (SADAT, ANWAR)
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Type: TE
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